due to paucity of funds and non-availability of indigenous training aircraft.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has designed and developed "Swati" training aircraft. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. has started manufacturing Swati. The Government have placed an order for purchase of 30 aircraft and these will be alloted to the flying clubs.

Investigations on Airbus A-320 Deal

4110. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) registered a case on the 29th March, 1990 to probe into Rs. 2,500 crore Airbus A-32 deal involving the alleged kickbacks of about Rs. 250 crores;

(b) if so, what are the details of the case as per FIR registered by CBI;

(c) whether CBI has completed its investigations, if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in completing the investigations and what is the present stage of investigation;

(e) what are the details of expenditure incurred by Government during each of the last three years and so far in 1994 and the names of officials who visited abroad and the duration of their stay with the details of expenditure incurred by them in connection with the CBI investigations; and;

(f) how long it will take to complete the investigations and file a case in the court of law against the persons involved in the deal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On source information, CBI has started investigation into the allegations that in the matter of purchase of Airbus A-320 aircraft, powered with V-2500 engines and lease of aircraft for augmenting the fleet of Indian Airlines, certain officers of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Indian Airlines and others in criminal conspiracy with Airbus Industrie, France and M/s International Aero Engines, USA/Switzerland and others, abused their official position to obtain undue pecuniary advantage to M/s. Airbus Industrie and M/s. International Aero Engines and caused a loss of about Rs. 500 crores to the public exchequer/Govt. of India. It was also alleged that the accused persons in the said transactions received money/ Kickbacks which have been deposited in the bank accounts in India and abroad.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The delay in completion of the investigation is mainly due to the reason that these are required to be conducted in foreign countries like U.S.A. , U.K., France, Switzerland, Nigeria etc. through letters Rogatory issued by the competent courts in India. The investigations abroad are time-consuming due to complexity of legal procedures involved. While most of the investigations in India have been completed, investigations abroad are still in progress.

(e) Two officers of CBI namely Shri R.S. Dwivedi, Deputy Superintendent of Police and Shri R.K. Dutta, Superintendent of Police had visited U.S.A. during the period from 26.12.91 to 13.1.92 for assisting the U.S. authorities in the execution of letters Rogatory. The expenditure on their deputation amounted to Rs. 2,52,530/ exclusive of accommodation. In addition an expenditure of Rs. 3,29,491/- has been incurred by C.B.I. towards professional services abroad in connection with the investigations.

(f) Because of the complex procedures involved in the investigations abroad, it

is not possible at this stage to indicate a definite time-frame for completion of the investigation.

Issue of Free Passes in IA and AI

4111. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules governing the issue of complimentary free passes by the Indian Airlines and Air India;

(b) what are the names of the persons to whom such passes were issued during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise;

(c) which are the authorities vested with discretionary powers for issue of such passes in addition to the above rules; and

(d) what are the reasons for grant of such discretionary powers of issuing complementary passes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development Plans for Chitrakoot

4112. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chitrakoot occupies important place for the people of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of people visit chitrakoot every month;

(c) whether it is also fact that people visiting Chitrakoot face a lot of difficulties due to lack of infrastructural facilities there;

(d) whether Government propose to give Chitrakoot the status of a tourist spot;

(e) if so, what action has been taken both at State and Central level, in this regard; and

(f) the future development plans of this place?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) Large number of tourists visit Chitrakoot. The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned construction of tourist complex for Rs. 9.66 lakhs during 1990-91 and yatri niwas for Rs. 35.74 lakhs during 1991-92 for augmentation of accommodation facilities in Chitrakoot. The development of any place as a tourist spot/centre is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

Plan to open guide-centres for Tourists in Chandigarh

4113. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have any plans to open guide-centres for tourists near Railway Station, Chandigarh, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what are Government's plan to extend the facility of tourist buses from Chandigarh to other areas in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No Sir, does not arise.

Development of New Air Ports

4114. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether government propose to develop new airports in the country;

(b) if so, the locations where these new airports would be developed;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to acquire land from the State Governments and the allocations made for the development of new airports; and

(d) the role of the state Governments [illegible]?